

**From:** Grant Shearer  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/24/02 8:33am  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Dear Sir/Madam:

Just thought I would throw my two cents in. I'm sure you've heard this several (thousand) times before, but Microsoft is a monopoly. If you don't believe it, just try to stop using their product in your home or office. It is virtually impossible and not because their products are so great, but because it is "what everyone else uses". So, hardware manufacturers only write drivers for Windows and software manufacturers only write code for the Windows OS.

This isn't necessarily Microsoft's fault, but the fact that they use their power in the market to try to force other people to use their products is their fault.

Getting PC Manufacturers to only ship their operating system, making their websites (msn.com in particular) unavailable to people who aren't using their Browser, forcing people to upgrade their Office suite for the mere sake of compatibility with the latest files....these are all reasons why Microsoft's business practices are less-than-ethical.

As if their monopoly wasn't enough, they are now allowed to advertise in U.S. Postal Offices?  
<http://www.macintouch.com/postoffice.html>

I think this is going in the wrong direction.

I hope my comments have helped in some way. Thanks for the opportunity to share.

Sincerely,

Grant Shearer